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The CIA Under Fire

There are two main dangers to be averted. One is that the agency can be missed by an unscrupulous administration. The other is that it can get out of anyone's control . . . Both these things have happened. . . .

—The Times, London (independent).

That CIA members have been discussing the assassination of political leaders of countries with which the U.S. was not even at war . . . is a demonstration of political weakness, not power. . . . An autonomous CIA is unthinkable. . . . Checks and balances need to be applied to intelligence operations . . . as to other workings of government.

—The Guardian, Manchester (liberal).

Only a few of the 30,000 CIA people are affected by the charges while there are 400,000 secret Soviet agents who have left their bloody traces on history. . . . Intelligence services have nothing in common with the Salvation Army.

—Bonner Rundschau, Bonn (conservative).

The CIA is an essential weapon for the protection of the U.S. and the West. . . . While statesmen exchange smiles and handshakes, intelligence services wage a silent war. . . . The most powerful and least scrupulous secret police of all time, the Soviet KGB, is immune from criticism by its government.

—Tagesspiel, West Berlin (independent).

A tough fight lies ahead if U.S. leaders really intend to clear out the jungle growth of the CIA. . . . But this is what must be done if U.S. relations with the rest of the world are to be healthy.

—Politiken, Copenhagen (liberal).